GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5293
ANSWERED ON:06.04.2017
Suicides by Powerloom Weavers
Solanki Dr. Kirit Premjibhai

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken measures to address the distressing crises in the powerloom industry and taken action to curb the increasing number of suicides by the powerloom weavers and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the steps taken to facilitate rapid modernization of powerlooms;

(c) whether the Government has considered collaborating with the State Governments to replace the existing powerlooms with the jet looms to produce value added fabric for good marketing and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has identified the woes of the workers and established a proper redressal mechanism and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES
(SHRI AJAY TAMTA)

(a) & (b): No reports of instances of suicides of the powerloom weavers have been received by the Ministry of Textiles. However, in order to strengthen and modernize the Powerloom Sector, Government has launched PowerTex India, a Comprehensive Scheme for Powerloom Sector Development w.e.f. 01.04.2017. Under the scheme there are several interventions. Under In-situ upgradation of plain powerloom scheme the subsidy amount has been enhanced from Rs.15,000/- to Rs.20,000(GEN- 50%), Rs. 30,000 (SC -75%), Rs 36,000 (ST-90%) - per loom; under Group Workshed Scheme the GOI assistance for construction of workshed has been enhanced from Rs. 300/- to Rs.400/- per sqft; and under Yarn Bank component, the government share of Corpus limit has been enhanced from Rs.1.00 crore to Rs.2.00 crores per project. Two new components namely (i) Pradhan Mantri Mudra Scheme, under which Margin Money Subsidy and Interest Subvention are provided; and (ii) Solar Energy Scheme under which financial assistance is provided to the tune of 50%, 75% and 90% to the Gen, SC/ST category workers respectively; have been introduced.

(c): State Governments have been requested to provide additional benefits to powerloom units in their States in addition to the subsidy /benefits given by Govt. of India. The details of additional subsidy provided by Govt. of Maharashtra, Telengana, Bihar and Karnataka under In-situ upgradation scheme are given below:-

State Clusters covered Subsidy
Maharashtra Malegaon, Nagpur, Ichalkaranji, Bhiwandi, Solapur & Vita Rs.10,000
Telangana Sircilla Rs.10,000
Bihar Bhagalpur Rs.12,000
Karnataka Bangalore & Belgaum Rs.10,000

However, there is no proposal for collaborating with State Governments to replace the existing Powerlooms with the jet looms i.e. Air jet and Water jet.

(d) & (e): Stakeholders meeting are held with members of the Powerloom industry. During 2016-17 three stakeholders meeting were held with representatives from Powerloom sector at the Ministry level. Further, several stakeholders meetings were held at the cluster level. Apart from this, grievances received through the Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) are redressed. Based on the suggestions received, the Ministry takes necessary measures for removing the impediments and strengthening the sector.

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